



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/759,462	01/16/2001	Geertrui Maria Wilhelmina Hibma	BO 44142 JGD	5018

466 7590 08/01/2003

YOUNG & THOMPSON
745 SOUTH 23RD STREET 2ND FLOOR
ARLINGTON, VA 22202

EXAMINER

GRANT II, JEROME

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2626

DATE MAILED: 08/01/2003

16

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/759,462

Applicant(s)

HIBMA, GEERTRUI MARIA
WILHELMINA

Examiner

Jerome Grant II

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,6,7,10,12,14,16,17 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 2626

Rejections Under Sect. 112

1. Claims 16 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph for failing to provide proper means plus function language. " Data carrier of a computer program product..." does not set forth means plus function language.

Rejections Under Art

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 1 and 6 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Yasumi.

With respect to claim 1, Yasumi teaches a system for distribution of periodical documents (direct mail) to at least one outlet, comprising a server arrangement (second line of the Solution), at least one outlet computer (which is either the computer of an order receiver side or a computer of an orderer side on a homepage (see the first and second lines of the Solution) allowing communication with a network (second line of the Solution) wherein an electronic copy is comprised in a print format (line 4 of the Solution) and receiving said data comprising the electronic copy of the periodical

Art Unit: 2624

document from the server arrangement (see line 2 of the Solution); and printing a copy of the periodical document from the electronic copy of the periodical document on request of a customer, see line 8 of the Solution. Furthermore, Yasumi teaches the outlet computer arrangement (chosen from among -the two computers named above) is arranged to carry out a payment procedure upon request by a customer. This limitation is addressed at line 4 of the Solution which states in part: "... an estimate price is calculated and displayed by selecting one among printing forms and inputting the number of copies prepared by the orderer side computer."

With respect to claim 6, Yasumi teaches the server arrangement(according to line 2 of the Solution) as claimed, wherein a copy of the periodical document is sent to an outlet computer (first line of the Solution) wherein the electronic copy (direct mail) comprises the content of the periodical document and information of a predetermined print format (according to mail format, line 2 of the Solution) ; to receive by said at least one outlet computer arrangement (line 1 of the Solution) said data comprising the electronic copy of the periodical from the server (line 2 of the Solution) and to print (see line 8 of the solution) upon a users request. . Furthermore, Yasumi teaches the outlet computer arrangement (chosen from among the two computers named above) is arranged to carry out a payment procedure upon request by a customer. This limitation is addressed at line 4 of the Solution which states in part: "... an estimate price is

Art Unit: 2624

calculated and displayed by selecting one among printing forms and inputting the number of copies prepared by the orderer side computer."

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness

rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yasumi in view of Tognazzini.

With respect to claims 2 and 7, Yasumi teaches all of the subject matter as supported by claim 1, but fails to teach the combination of features provided in claims 2 and 7.

Tognazzini teaches receiving an electronic copy of a periodical and registers information data from the publishing computer, information data comprising data about an actual edition of the periodical document (such as date sent) and data about a location of the outlet computer (address of the outlet computer), see col. 2, lines 45-54. Furthermore, Tognazzini teaches national language support operations, see element 603 in figure 6 for supporting translations between a first and second language as claimed.

Art Unit: 2624

Since Yasumi and Tognazinni are both directed to the transmission and distribution of electronic documents, the purpose of registering unique data about the document and providing translational services, would have been recognized by Yasumi as set forth by Tognazzini.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the software used to run the computer and server, discussed in the Solution, for the purpose of providing the limitations as claimed and supported by Tognazzini.

4. (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371 (c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 10, 14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by King.

With respect to claims 10, 14 and 16, King teaches a server arrangement as provided by in figure 1, comprising: processing means (102) memory means 106 (as a data carrier) and processor means connected to the memory and arrangement to communicate with publishing computers (108, 110, 112)

Art Unit: 2624

and at least one outlet computer (which is one of the other computers mentioned above not chosen as the publishing computer) wherein the processing means performs as follows: to send data comprising the electronic copy as claimed wherein the electronic copy comprises the content of the periodical document and information of a predetermined format, (i.e., the PDL format col. 2, lines 47-55).

5.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371 (c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 12, 17 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Tognazzini.

With respect to claims 12 and 19, Tognazzini teaches an outlet computer arrangement (PC in figure 6) for distribution of a periodical document, comprising processing means (620) memory means (810 in figure 8a) a printer (840) in figure 8b, said processing means connected to the memory as claimed: said at least one outlet computer arranged to communicate with a server (620) for receiving an electronic copy including the content of the peri

Art Unit: 2624

(620) for receiving an electronic copy including the content of the periodical document; and a printer (600 according to figure 6) for the purpose claimed.

With respect to claim 17, Tognazzini teaches a computer program product, (such as card type language selectors 260 shown by figure 2, flash memory 210, according to figure 2 and memory means, inherently provided in the translation server (630), of the software for running the network 620. The computer product sends information regarding comprising processing means 620 and memory means 810, see figure 8a, a printer 840 shown in fig. 8b, where said processing means is connected to the memory as claimed; said at least one outlet computer arranged to communicate with server 620 for receiving an electronic copy including the content of the periodical document; and printer (600, according to figure 6) for the purpose claimed.

6.

Examiner's Remarks

Applicant's remarks have been considered but are unpersuasive to allow the claims. Applicant's salient argument is that King does not disclose sensing data comprising the electronic copy as claimed wherein the electronic copy comprises the content of the periodical document and information of a predetermined format. And that a PDL format is not disclosed. What applicant has set forth is an opinion without any factual support for this opinion. Moreover, this opinion seems to be irrelevant for the reason that neither claims 10 nor 14 discuss a PDL format.

Applicant's arguments are somewhat nebulous since it is not clear what claim or claims are specifically being argued. Applicant has not explained how King or any other reference, does not teach, anticipate or suggest the claimed invention.

The examiner relied on col. 1, lines 47-55 where specific formats of electronic copy are clearly set forth. Note the examiner had incorrectly referred to col. 2 with the same lines. However, it is clear that col. 1, lines 47-55 discuss the section relied upon in the claims.


Art Unit: 2624

7.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerome Grant II whose telephone number is 703-3054391. The examiner can normally be reached on Jerome Grant II from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore, can be reached on (703) 308-7452. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to -the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-3053900.



JEROME GRANT II
PRIMARY EXAMINER

J. Grant II

July 30, 2003